

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A combination comprising:
a permeable facemask having a periphery ~~formed~~ adapted to abut a user's face; and
~~a tri-dimensional~~ a compressible gasket formed of a permeable filtering material ~~affixed to on~~
said periphery of said facemask adapted to sit between said periphery of said facemask and a face
of a user thereby filling any space that may exist there between.
2. (Currently amended) The combination as in claim 1 wherein said ~~tri-dimensional~~
~~permeable filtering material~~ compressible gasket includes an active agent incorporated therein.
3. (Currently amended) The combination as in claim 1 wherein said ~~tri-dimensional~~
~~permeable filtering material~~ compressible gasket comprises a porous dielectric carrier.
4. (Previously presented) The combination as in claim 3 wherein said porous dielectric
carrier is a non-woven material.
5. (Currently amended) The combination as in claim 3 wherein said porous dielectric carrier
is a fiber based material having a fibrous three dimensional matrix structure.
6. (Previously presented) The combination as in claim 3 wherein said porous dielectric
carrier is a sponge like material have an open cell matrix structure.
7. (Previously Presented) The combination as in claim 2 wherein said active agent is
selected from the group consisting of metals and chemical compounds.
8. (Previously presented) The combination as in claim 2 wherein said active agent is an
iodinated resin.

9. (Currently amended) A combination comprising:
a permeable facemask having a periphery formed adapted to abut a user's face; and
~~a tri-dimensional permeable filtering material~~ compressible gasket formed of a permeable filtering material having an active agent incorporated therein affixed to on said periphery of said facemask adapted to sit between said periphery of said facemask and a face of a user thereby filling any space that may exist there between; wherein said compressible gasket includes an electrostatic charge there across.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently amended) The combination as in claim 9 wherein said ~~permeable filtering material~~ compressible gasket comprises a porous dielectric carrier.

12. (Previously presented) The combination as in claim 11 wherein said porous dielectric carrier is a non-woven material.

13. (Previously presented) The combination as in claim 11 wherein said porous dielectric carrier is a fiber based material having a fibrous matrix structure.

14. (Previously presented) The combination as in claim 11 wherein said porous dielectric carrier is a sponge like material have an open cell matrix structure.

15. (Currently Amended) The combination as in claim ~~10~~ 9 wherein said active agent is selected from the group consisting of metals and chemical compounds.

16. (Currently amended) The combination as in claim ~~10~~ 9 wherein said active agent is an iodinated resin.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (New) The combination as in claim 5 wherein said fiber matrix structure is configured to entrap the active agent in said three dimensional matrix structure.
19. (New) The combination as in claim 5 wherein the active agent is intermeshed with the fiber based material.
20. (New) The combination as in claim 4 wherein said nonwoven material comprises a polymer fiber selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyethylene and polypropylene.
21. (New) The combination as in claim 2 wherein said active agent is a biostatic and/or biocidal material.
22. The combination as in claim 2 wherein the active agent is selected from the group consisting of silver, copper, halogenated resin, and activated carbon.
23. The combination as in claim 2 wherein the active agent is a metal, said metal selected from the group consisting of aluminum, barium, boron, calcium, chromium, copper, iron, magnesium, manganese, molybdenum, nickel, lead, potassium, silicon, sodium, strontium and zinc.
24. The combination as in claim 2, wherein the active agent is a chemical compound selected from the group consisting of N-methyl piperazine, potassium hydroxide, zinc chloride, calcium chloride and a mixture of sodium carbonate and sodium bicarbonate.
25. The combination of claim 18 wherein the fiber based material includes an electrostatic charge there across, said electrostatic charge capable of generating a potential across the surface of said fiber based material.
26. The combination of claim 25 wherein the electrostatic charge is single or multi-layered.

27. The combination of claim 26 wherein the electrostatic charge is about 25 Kv.